

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3506
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
EPF FAMILY PENSION SCHEME
SURESH KODIKUNNIL

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that the employees who were subscribing to EPF Family Pension Scheme from 1971 onwards, but retired from service between 1993 and 1999 are getting only a meagre pension of Rs. 400-500 p.m.;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any representation has been received from the Pensioners' Association for revision of the minimum pension amount; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) & (b): Under the Employees Pension Scheme, 1995, 50% of the pay is payable as monthly pension on completion of 33 years of contributory service. The total membership period under Employees' Family Pension Scheme, 1971 as well as Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 are considered for the eligibility period for pensionary benefits under the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995. The amount of pension is the aggregate of pension calculated on account of past service and the pensionable service.

(c) & (d): The Association had demanded to enhance the minimum pension paid to the pensioners. The Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 is a self-financing scheme with limited resources. The quantum of benefits extended to the members/families shall depend on the inflow into the fund in the form of contribution and interest earned on them. The minimum amount of pension has been fixed on the basis of actuarial calculation and keeping in view, the affordability and financial viability of the pension fund. There is a provision for evaluation of pension fund and review of pensionary benefits on an annual basis. In the four valuations till date in the EPS, 95, relief has been given @ 4%, 5.5%, 4% & 4% respectively. The Pensioners' Association has been informed accordingly.